

Application No.: 10/693,542

Docket No.: 16422/005001

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

- 1-7. (Cancelled).
8. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for culture, comprising a container having at least one concave part and at least one member (x) selected from the group consisting of a gelatinous material, a sponge material, and a mesh material, wherein the member (x) is placed within the concave part of the container, has at least one hollow by which a part or parts of a surface of the container in the concave part is bared, and holds a solution containing culture medium components, and wherein on the bared part of the surface of the container, an electrode is pasted or printed.
9. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for culture, comprising a container having at least one concave part and at least one member (x) selected from the group consisting of a gelatinous material, a sponge material, and a mesh material, wherein the member (x) is placed within the concave part of the container, has at least one hollow by which a part or parts of a surface of the container in the concave part is bared, holds a solution containing culture medium components, and further has at least one member selected from the group consisting of a hole where the surface of the container in the concave part is not bared and a large hollow that has a volume larger than that of the hollow.
10. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing an apparatus for culture comprising:
step (a) of placing within a concave part of a container an article that can cover a part of a surface of the concave part, and has a certain height, and is configured to make a hollow in a layer of gelatinous material that is made by step (c), wherein the hollow is configured to hold a solution in use;
step (b) of pouring into the concave part a solution that contains culture medium components and at least one substance to be examined, and that can be gelatinized; and
step (c) of gelatinizing the solution; and

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step (d) of removing the article to expose the hollow in the layer of the gelatinous material.

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing an apparatus for culture, comprising:
step (a) of placing within a concave part of a container an article that can cover a part of a surface of the concave part and has a certain height;
step (b) of pouring into the concave part a solution that contains culture medium components and that can be gelatinized; and
step (c) of gelatinizing the solution,
wherein the container has an electrode that has been pasted or printed on the surface of the concave part and in step (a) the article is placed so that it covers at least a part of the electrode.

14. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing an apparatus for culture, comprising:
step (a) of placing within a concave part of a container an article that can cover a part of a surface of the concave part and has a certain height;
step (b) of pouring into the concave part a solution that contains culture medium components and that can be gelatinized;
step (c) of gelatinizing the solution; and
step (e) of (i) holing a part of a layer that has been made by gelatinizing the solution to form a hole where a surface of the concave part is not bared, or (ii) hollowing a part of a layer that has been made by gelatinizing the solution to form a large hollow which has a volume larger than that of a hollow which is made by removing the article and by which a part of a surface of the concave part is bared, wherein the step (e) is conducted after the step (c).

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15. (Cancelled).
16. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing an apparatus for culture, comprising:
step (A) of making, within a concave part of a container, a layer of at least one member (x) selected from the group consisting of a sponge material and a mesh material, wherein the member (x) is impregnated with a solution containing culture medium components; and
step (B) of hollowing a part of the layer so that a part of a surface of the container in the concave part is bared to form a hollow.
- 17-21. (Cancelled).
22. (Previously Presented) A culturing method using the apparatus of claim 8, comprising:
(1) putting a culture medium solution and cells or a piece of a tissue into the at least one hollow; and
(2) culturing the cells or the piece of the tissue.
23. (Previously Presented) A culturing method using the apparatus of claim 9, comprising:
(1) putting a culture medium solution and cells or a piece of a tissue into the at least one hollow; and
(2) culturing the cells or the piece of the tissue.